

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A removable device ~~which is attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer executing an automatic startup script stored in a device of a specified type when the device is connected thereto~~, comprising:

a ROM or a read-writable memory storage device as a main memory storage device; and

an automatic startup script stored in an area recognizable as a specified type of device within the ROM or the read-writable memory; and

a pseudo recognition simulation unit configured to return a signal indicating that the removable device is the of a specified type of device in which an automatic startup script is stored in the storage device and executed by a computer to which the device is attached, in response to an inquiry signal ~~concerning~~ inquiring the type of the device sent from the computer upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface of the computer,

wherein the pseudo recognition unit returns an absence signal representing an absence of media at least once, and then returns a presence signal representing a presence of the media in response to an inquiry signal inquiring a presence of media repeated via the universal peripheral device interface to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The removable device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of unit devices, each being recognizable as a portion of the removable device by the computer allocated in single removable device; and

a hub unit configured to allocate data exchange between with the computer and side-to each of the unit devices.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The removable device according to claim 1,

wherein an auto-starting program launched by the automatic startup script is stored in the area recognizable as a specified type of device within the ROM or the read-writable memory storage-device in advance, and

the auto-starting program, along with performing password-based authentication, performs, or lets the removable device perform, at least either formatting of specified data or termination of the program when an incorrect password is entered a predetermined number of times.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The removable device according to claim 1, wherein an auto-starting program launched by the automatic startup script is stored in the area recognizable as a specified type of device within the ROM or the read-writable memory storage-device in advance, and

the auto-starting program establishes associations between desired file extensions and desired programs on a temporary basis only while the removable device is in use.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The removable device according to claim 1, wherein an auto-starting program launched by the automatic startup script is stored in the area recognizable as a specified type of device within the ROM or the read-writable memory storage device in advance, and

the auto-starting program is configured:

to handle files that have been deleted in an ~~a storage area of the storage device recognized~~ recognizable as a removable disk within the ROM or the read-writable memory by the computer as candidate files marked for deletion in a trash bin specific to the removable disk, and

with respect to the candidate files marked for deletion, to accept and execute an operation of displaying the files contained in the area recognizable as the removable disk ~~therein~~, an operation of restoring a desired file, and an operation of completely erasing some or all of the files.

Claims 7-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The removable device according to claim 1,

wherein an auto-starting program launched by the automatic startup script is stored in the area recognizable as a specified type of device within the ROM or the read-writable memory storage-device in advance, and

the execution of the auto-starting program is preconditioned by password-based authentication.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The removable device according to claim 1,

wherein an auto-starting program launched by the automatic startup script is stored in the area recognizable as a specified type of device within the ROM or the read-writable memory storage-device in advance, and

the auto-starting program is an electronic mail program which, along with operating based on account information contained in the removable device, stores sent and received electronic mail data in the removable device.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method for launching a program, comprising:

executing an installer program for installing a detection program, which is stored in a removable device attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer, such that the detection program is installed in the computer;

storing an automatic startup script in an area recognizable as a specified type of device within a ROM or a read-writable memory of the removable device;

sending an inquiry signal inquiring the type of a device sent from the computer upon connection between the removable device and the universal peripheral device interface of the computer, and receiving a signal indicating that the removable device is the specified type of device, an absence signal representing an absence of media at least once, and a subsequent presence signal representing a presence of the media in response to the inquiry signal to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer;

executing the detection program in the [[a]] computer in advance; and

launching, when the removable device is attached to [[a]] the universal peripheral device interface of the computer, a [[the]] program corresponding to specified data in the removable device by the detection program.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A removable device attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer, comprising:

a ROM or read-writable memory storage device as it's a main memory storage device;
and

boot information stored in an area recognizable as a flexible disk drive within the ROM or the read-writable memory, the boot information being used for starting an operating system of the computer bootable via the flexible disk drive;

a boot controller configured to send a reply representing the [[a]] flexible disk drive in response to access from a BIOS of the computer via the universal peripheral device interface and

to automatically boot the computer by providing the boot information upon turning on the computer stored in the storage device and used for starting an operating system of the computer.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A removable device which is attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer ~~executing an automatic startup script stored in a device of a specified type when the device is connected thereto~~, comprising:

a ROM or a read-writable memory means ~~storage device~~ as a main memory storage device; [[and]]

means for storing an automatic startup script in an area recognizable as a specified type of device within the memory means; and

means for returning a signal indicating that the removable device is ~~the~~ of a specified type of device ~~in which an automatic startup script is stored in the storage device and executed by a computer to which the device is attached~~; in response to an inquiry signal ~~concerning~~ inquiring the type of the device sent from the computer upon connection to the universal peripheral device interface of the computer.

wherein the means for returning returns an absence signal representing an absence of media at least once, and then returns a presence signal representing a presence of the media in response to an inquiry signal inquiring a presence of media repeated via the universal peripheral device interface to allow the automatic startup script to be automatically executed by the computer.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A removable device attached/detached to/from a universal peripheral device interface of a computer, comprising:

~~a ROM or read-writable~~ memory means storage device as it's a main memory storage device; and

means for storing boot information in an area recognizable as a flexible disk drive within the memory means, the boot information being used for starting an operating system of the computer bootable via the flexible disk drive; and

means for sending a reply representing the ~~[[a]]~~ flexible disk drive in response to an access from a BIOS of the computer via the universal peripheral device interface ~~and booting to~~ automatically boot the computer by providing the boot information upon turning on the computer stored in the storage device and used for starting an operating system of the computer.